

Message Text

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ACTION OES-04

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TBIO, OSCI, JA

SUBJ: PHS RESEARCH GRANT TO HIDECHIKA OKADA

REFS: A) STATE 115329, B) TOKYO 5425, C) TOKYO A-248(4/10/74)

OES/SCI/BMP FOR DR. BEAUBIEN

SUMMARY: OKADA'S GRANT HAS BEEN FROZEN. OKADA IS TRYING TO HAVE HIS GRANT TRANSFERRED TO A NON-GOJ UNIVERSITY. ACTION REQUESTED: ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS IN PARAS 3-6. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBOFF HAS CONFERRED CLOSELY WITH FONOFF ON OKADA GRANT, EMPHASIZING THAT NIH'S SENDING OF LETTER OF AWARD WAS PURELY A PROCEDURAL ERROR. YOUNG FONOFF OFFICIAL (TANAKA) WITH WHOM EMB-OFF WORKING REALIZES THIS AND IS DOING HIS BEST TO FIND A WAY FOR THIS GRANT TO BE CARRIED OUT. HOWEVER, EMBASSY AND FONOFF REALIZE THAT THIS CASE IS PART OF A MUCH LARGER PROBLEM, WHICH HAS LAIN DORMANT AND UNRESOLVED SINCE BASIC LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE CONFLICTS WERE FULLY EXPOSED IN 1970 (REPAIR C). EMBASSY AND FONOFF HAVE AGREED THAT BEST WAY TO REACH SOLUTION IS TO FREEZE SITUATION FOR NOW. DR. OKADA HAS BEEN CONTACTED BY MHW AND HAS GIVEN HIS INFORMAL AGREEMENT NOT TO SPEND ANY MONEY FROM THIS GRANT.

2. IN TREATING TOPIC OF USG GRANTS TO GOJ RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS OVER PAST TWO YEARS, EMBASSY'S ASSUMPTION, BASED ON BRIEFING IN 1973 BY FONOFF, HAS BEEN THAT ADMINISTRATIVE BARRIERS TO NIH GRANTS APPLY EQUALLY TO ALL GOJ MINISTRIES. HOWEVER, IN REVIEW-

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ING EMBASSY'S TALKING PAPER OF JUNE 18, 1970, (CONTAINED REPAIR

C), EMBOFF BECAME AWARE THAT NEGOTIATIONS MENTIONED THEREIN INVOLVED ONLY MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (MOE), AMONG ALL GOJ MINISTRIES WITH RESEARCH RESPONSIBILITIES. EMBOFF UNDERSTOOD FROM FONOFF BRIEFING THAT, IN ABOUT 1967, MOE SENT TO HEADS OF ALL GOJ-AFFILIATED UNIVERSITIES A WRITTEN ORDER TO EFFECT THAT USG GRANTS TO FACULTY MEMBERS COULD BE ACCEPTED ONLY IF APPROVED BY DEPARTMENT HEAD AND ONLY IF MONEY WERE FIRST DEPOSITED TO CENTRAL NATIONAL SCHOOL SPECIAL ACCOUNT FUND. DR. OKADA REPORTS THAT NATIONAL CANCER CENTER (NCC) IS UNAWARE OF ANY SUCH RESTRICTION ON NCC PERSONNEL'S ACCEPTANCE OF USG GRANTS AND THAT OFFICIALS IN MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND WELFARE (MHW) CANNOT FIND ANY WRITTEN ORDER PARALLEL TO MOE'S REPORTED ONE. TANAKA (FONOFF) ALSO REPORTS THAT MHW MAY NOT HAVE SENT OUT SUCH AN ORDER, AS IT SHOULD HAVE. IN ADDITION, TANAKA REPORTS CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY IN GETTING MHW TO DESIGNATE ITS REPRESENTATIVE ON THIS TOPIC. UNTIL MHW DOES SO, THERE IS NO PROSPECT OF A COORDINATED GOJ REPLY.

3. DR. OKADA HIMSELF HAS A PERSONAL STAKE, SINCE HE HAS A CURRENTLY UNPAID POST-DOCTORAL FELLOW AND HAD RESERVED THE SERVICES OF A TECHNICIAN AND A SECRETARY. OKADA HAS PROVEN MOST ACTIVE AND HELPFUL, AND HAS VISITED EMBOFF TWICE TO DISCUSS HIS CASE. EMBOFF EMPHASIZED NON-PERSONAL AND LONG-STANDING NATURE OF BILATERAL PROBLEM AND ITS BROAD IMPLICATIONS. APPARENTLY AS RESULT OF THESE FRANK DISCUSSIONS, OKADA HAS BEGUN INQUIRIES INTO TRANSFERRING HIS GRANT TO YOKOHAMA CITY UNIVERSITY (YCU: NOT A GOJ-AFFILIATED UNIVERSITY), WHERE HE IS NOW A PART-TIME ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR. HE WROTE MARIE C. GRADNER AND LEO F. BUSCHER ON JUNE 4, ASKING ABOUT TRANSFERRING HIS GRANT TO YCU. EMBASSY IS ENCOURAGED AT THIS APPROACH, AS IT SEEMS ONLY ONE LIKELY TO ALLOW OKADA TO USE GRANT WITHIN A REASONABLE TIME. HOWEVER, ONE BASIS OF INFORMATION ON PAGES 30-31 OF PHS' "GRANTS POLICY STATEMENT" (DHEW PUBLICATION NO (OS) 74-50,000), BOOKLET GIVEN OKADA BY DHEW, EMBOFF HAS ADVISED OKADA THAT A NEW APPLICATION WILL BE REQUIRED TO TRANSFER HIS GRANT TO YCU. PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER THIS IS CORRECT.

4. EMBOFF CONTACTED DR. OKADA AGAIN JUNE 9 AND LEARNED THAT HE HAD BEEN BRIEFED BY TANAKA ON DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED IN USING HIS GRANT. OKADA UNDERSTANDS THAT, OFFICIALLY, ALL HE CAN DO IS WAIT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OUTCOME OF GOJ-USG TALKS. AS ANOTHER WAY, HE PLANS TO INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITY OF TRANSFERRING HIS GRANT TO YCU. IN CONNECTION WITH THIS, OKADA ASKED IF GRANT MONEY WOULD BE PAID TO HIM OR TO YCU. EMBOFF WAS UNABLE TO ADVISE HIM AS TO WHICH METHOD OF PAYMENT, MONTHLY CASH REQUEST OR REIMBURSEMENT BY TREASURY CHECK, WOULD BE USED. PLEASE ADVISE.

5. OKADA ASKED EMBOFF TO CHECK POSSIBILITY THAT HE MIGHT BE RE-

IMBURSED FOR APPROXIMATE AMOUNT OF \$1,000, WHICH HE SPENT, BEFORE FINDING THAT GRANT COULD NOT BE AWARDED, FOR SECRETARY WHO ACTUALLY STARTED WORK AND FOR POST-DOCTORAL FELLOW WHOM HE PROMISED TO PAY. EMBOFF WAS VERY PESSIMISTIC ON THIS, BUT PROMISED TO CHECK. PLEASE ADVISE.

6. TANAKA ASKED IF AUDIT AND PATENT CLAUSES OF KOBATA CONTRACT (FOUND IN GSA STANDARD FORM 32) ALSO WOULD APPLY TO OKADA'S GRANT. PLEASE ADVISE.
HODGSON

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